

PRESIDENT: You have to vote on an amendment.

SENATOR NEWELL: Okay, then the amendment then.

PRESIDENT: Any further discussion? Senator Cullan.

SENATOR CULLAN: Senator Newell, could you explain your amendment to me again. I didn't quite understand what you're doing here.

SENATOR NEWELL: Basically, as I understand it this is the only political subdivison, the only part of state government, only political subdivision that is excluded from political activities. This is just an amendment to clarify in case there are any other ones that we don't know about, that we make a general philosophical statement that, in fact, we allow them to participate in politics. That is all it is. It should not have any effect that this bill does not already have.

SENATOR CULLAN: If it doesn't have any effect then why do we need the amendment?

SENATOR NEWELL: To make sure. I'm saying...the argument is that this is the only last vestage where it is prohibited and let's just make sure of that.

SENATOR CULLAN: Okay. Thank you Senator Newell.

PRESIDENT: Senator Kahle.

SENATOR KAHLE: Just a question of Senator Newell. Are you just going to try to change the part that is in the statute? I think we'd have a problem if we wanted to just control all of the heads of departments and try to tell them what to do. I would support you if you were just wanting to change the part that is in the statute.

SENATOR NEWELL: I don't understand what you're saying.

SENATOR KAHLE: I think what we're talking about is this particular part, if I understand it right now the Game and Parks Commission is probably the only one that is in the statute that is prohibited from doing this. We find that there are other agency heads that might....

PRESIDENT: We're out of time, gentlemen.

SENATOR KAHLE: ...may do the same thing, but I don't see....

PRESIDENT: Senator Kahle, excuse me. Our hour is up. Chair recognizes Senator Luedtke.

SPEAKER LUEDTKE: I was just going to say that this is an example of what we could have done. We could have moved this bill on and the amendment could have been worked out for Select File and we would have been on the way and the work could have been done in E & R, but it wasn't done. This is just an example to show you what is happening. Could we have a vote on it and pass it on? Let's just take a vote on this one and get it out so we don't have to take it up again, move this one on.